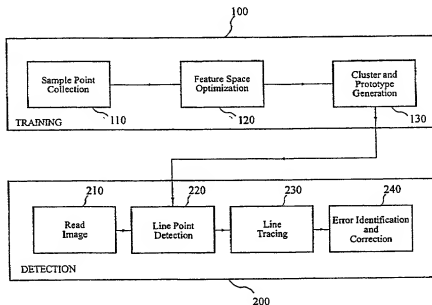




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(54) Title: LINE OBJECT VECTORIZATION IN COLOUR/GRAYSCALE IMAGES



(57) Abstract

A method for the vectorization of line objects in a colour or grayscale image is disclosed which comprises the steps of: (a) collecting sample data of line points on line objects within said image, and extracting multiple features from the collected sample data to represent characteristics of the line points, (b) grouping said data into a plurality of clusters in a multi-dimensional feature space, each said cluster comprising a plurality of line points having feature measures within a selected criteria set, (c) detecting further line points by matching image points to said clusters and rejecting image points not falling within any cluster, (d) performing a line tracing operation based on the detected line points and features, and (e) identifying and correcting possible errors.